FDR-Wallace Ticket Choice Of Democrats

Third Term Tradition Is Broken by Delegates At Convention.

By GEORGE A. BARCLAY

A TRADITION of 152 years standing was shattered when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was nominated for a third term by the Democratic convention in Chicago. It was the first time in history that such an event has occurred.

From start to finish at the convention it was evident he would be nominated. Even when speakers proposed the names of other candidates, it was apparent that when the vote was finally taken, President Roosevelt would be drafted. A surprise to many convention attendants was the fact that when the nominations started, Alabama did not yield to New York, but gave its junior senator, Lister Hill, the honor of nominating the President.

Greatest speculation centered around the nomination of a vice president. It became known on the final day that President Roosevelt's choice was Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture. As in the case of the renomination of the President, the delegates knew for whom they were to vote before entering the hall. But it was only after a neck-and-neck race with Speaker William B. Bankhead and a noisy demonstration by groups of delegates and spectators who shouted objections when Paul V. McNutt, federal security administrator, asked withdrawal of his own name, that Mr. Wallace was nominated. His selection is expected to appeal to agriculture and to act as an offset to the same appeal of Sen. Charles McNary, Republican vice-presidential nominee.

Acceptance Speech.

In accepting the nomination for a third term, Mr. Roosevelt showed himself once more a tradition smasher.

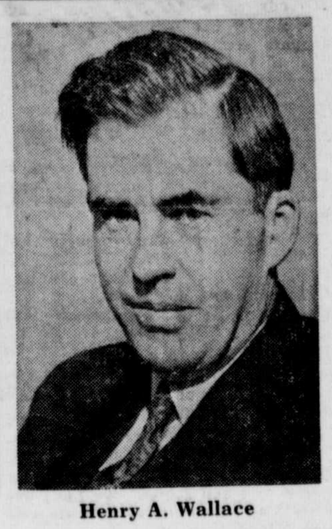
In a radio address broadcast from the White House to the delegates he said that he accepted the nomination only after deep conflict between his personal desire to retire and the urgings of his conscience. But now, he said, the European war had created a public danger in the United States.

"In the face of that danger," he told the delegates, "all those who can be of service to the republic have no other choice but to offer themselves for service in those capacities for which they are best fitted."

It was an apparently united party that made the ballot unanimous for Roosevelt after the vote of the state delegations had given the President 946 13/30 of the 1,100 votes in the convention and the other candidates a combined total of 149 2/30. These candidates included Postmaster General Farley, Vice President Garner and Senator Millard Tydings. Secretary of State Hull, although not a candidate, had received 5⅔ votes. One after another the names were withdrawn and finally Mr. Farley, spearhead of the opposition to the third term, moved the nomination of the President by acclamation.

1940 STANDARD BEARERS

Franklin D. Roosevelt



Henry A. Wallace

Aside from the balloting and the reading of the planks in the platform, three things stood out in sharp relief in an otherwise unemotional and unexciting convention. One was the candidacy of James A. Farley and the speculation over his future role in the party. The other was the reading by Permanent Chairman Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky of a statement summarizing President Roosevelt's views on the nomination the night before the balloting in which he said he had no desire or purpose to continue in office and released all delegates pledged to him. The third was the dramatic appearance of 82-year-old Senator Carter Glass of Virginia from a sick bed to inveigh against breaking the third term tradition as he nominated Mr. Farley.

Roosevelt vs. Farley.

The approaching dissolution of the partnership between Mr. Farley and President Roosevelt was evident as the chairman of the Democratic National committee raised his gavel on Monday noon, calling the convention to order. Those who remembered the situation in 1932 and 1936 when Farley was the organizing genius felt the contrast. No longer was Jim Farley the general-in-chief directing the strategy that would renominate his chief. He was in another role—that of a candidate for the presidency himself and an avowed opponent of the third-term idea.

For months it had been apparent to political observers that the President and Mr. Farley no longer saw eye-to-eye. The President's silence on the third-term question and Farley's known opposition to it increased the difficulties. Their historic conference at Hyde Park, N. Y., a week before the convention at which Mr. Roosevelt made known his views and pledged Farley to secrecy, pushed the question of their future relationship further into the limelight. To many, it seemed virtual confirmation of the long-standing rumor that Mr. Farley would resign his national committee and cabinet posts after the convention to take over the majority stock of the New York Yankees' ball club.

Complimentary references to Jim Farley by President Roosevelt in his radioed acceptance speech and by Mrs. Roosevelt who appeared personally to speak on the closing night were interpreted as a gesture of friendship to Mr. Farley.

With evidence mounting that Roosevelt would be drafted when it came time to ballot later in the week, there was little opportunity for suspense or excitement the opening day. The keynote speech of Temporary Chairman William B. Bankhead on opening night warned both political parties that the American people are in no mood for petty politics in the forthcoming race, that the major objectives of both parties must be unity and solidarity of purpose in preserving the structure of our government and the perpetuation of the people's freedom.

Fire at Republicans.

Heavy guns were turned on the Republican party in the speech of Permanent Chairman Barkley, the following night. Senator Barkley held their platform up to scorn, denounced Wendell L. Willkie, attacked statements of Herbert Hoover at the Republican convention and pointed to the record of Republican congressional voting on various preparedness bills. One mention of President Roosevelt's name brought a demonstration lasting 22 minutes.

The statement from President Roosevelt which Mr. Barkley read at the conclusion of his speech, had no effect in halting the draft-Roosevelt movement, although Mr. Barkley had said "The President has never had and has not today any desire or purpose to continue the office of President, or to be nominated, by the convention for that office. He wishes in all earnestness and sincerity to make it clear that all of the delegates to this convention are free to vote for any candidate."

A demonstration lasting an hour followed the statement and it was a foregone conclusion that nothing could stop the delegates demand for Roosevelt when balloting took place. This was abundantly clear on Wednesday night, as state after state seconded the nomination speech.

Glass Gets Ovation.

Dramatic was the appearance of Senator Glass on behalf of Postmaster General Farley. Rising from a sickbed and attending what may well be his last convention, the Virginia statesman was eloquent in his praise of Farley and won for himself a personal ovation. "Farley," he said, "is a man who never broke a pledge once given, who believes in the unwritten law as advocated by Democrats ever since the days of Thomas Jefferson, who less than three years before his death appealed to his party never to nominate a man for a third term."

But while the delegates cheered Senator Glass, it was a personal tribute only. Their minds were made up. Tradition or no tradition they wanted President Roosevelt for a third term.

With the nominations out of the way, the Democrats faced their campaign opponents from a platform built on a strong defense of the New Deal against the Republicans and of the Western hemisphere against all aggressors. In its planks on foreign wars, defense and aid to the allies the platform was a close approximation of similar planks adopted by the Republican convention at Philadelphia recently.

Concerning foreign wars, the platform stated: "We will not participate in foreign wars and will not send our army, naval or air forces to fight in foreign lands outside of the Americas, except in case of attack."

Concerning defense the platform pledged to "enforce and defend the Monroe doctrine," "provide America with an invincible air force, a navy strong enough to protect all our seacoasts and a fully equipped and mechanized army."

The platform is pledged to safeguard the farmer's foreign markets, expand his domestic markets for all domestic crops, to promote farmer-owned co-operatives, marketing agreements, extend crop insurance and safeguard the family-size farm.

In other planks, the party pledged extension of the Social Security act to "millions of persons not now protected," but without specifying them. A provision calling for "early realization" of a minimum pension for the aged was considered an appeal for votes of the Townsendites.

The party devoted considerable space to its declaration for continuation of public hydro-electric projects and condemning the "Power Monopoly" in one paragraph mentioning indirectly Wendell L. Willkie's long duel with the Tennessee Valley authority.

Democratic Women Gain Voice In Party's Platform Council

By HOWARD JARVIS

ANOTHER tradition was broken by the Democratic party when it gave women delegates an equal voice with men on the party platform committee for the first time in American political history.

This action was taken at the fourth session of the convention. More than 2,000 women delegates had decided to put up a united front to demand this equality.

The women didn't hesitate to use their new-found power. They introduced several amendments to the party platform, and those amendments were passed. Foreign policy and women's rights received particular attention.

At the insistence of Mrs. Arthur Condon of Washington, D. C., the plank on foreign policy which had already been accepted by the committee was changed to provide a warning to foreign dictators. Five words, "except in case of attack" were added to the pledge not to send troops to fight in foreign lands.

The new committeewomen put through a plank which had been rejected by the all-men members of the Republican platform committee. This was a statement which provided that a woman's marital status should not interfere with her right to hold a job. The plank was desired because 26 states at different times have had bills proposed to discriminate against married women.

Another victory for the women resulted when the Democratic party was pledged to promote equal opportunity for women through the efforts of Congresswoman Mary T. Norton of New Jersey. It pledged the Democrats to work for "equality of opportunity for men and women without impairing the social legislation which promotes true equality by safeguarding the health and economic welfare of women workers."

Women delegates concerned themselves primarily with the business of the convention and forgot their social activities, according to Mrs. Elizabeth A. Conkey, national committeewoman from Illinois. As convention hostess, she pointed out that most of the social activities had been concluded before the convention got down to its serious work.

Random Notes of the Convention

¶ More women delegates cast their votes in the various state delegations than ever before in the history of conventions. One state delegation—Utah—had more women than men, the ladies outnumbering the gentlemen nine to seven. In the Florida delegation the representation of the sexes was equal. The New Jersey delegation had Rep. Mary Norton as its chairman.

¶ One-eyed Connolly, perennial gate-crasher, failed to crash but attended the convention wearing the badge of an assistant sergeant of arms. He assisted Andy Frain, in charge of ushers.

¶ Hollywood was represented by screen star Melvin Douglas and his wife, Helen Gahagan. He was a California delegate, she his alternate.

Sportlight

by GRANTLAND RICE

AS A rule we can usually check on this date just where the leaders belong and who should dominate the remainder of the campaign. It doesn't happen to work in that direction this passing year of 1940.

When we have Max Baer and Tony Galento fighting to see which entry will be tossed in against Joe Louis, you get a general idea of the heavyweight matter. Which means that Joe Louis is still the main standout, almost the only standout in sport today.

Grantland Rice

This goes for all sports.

A year ago the Yankees were again running away with the American league pennant. But not this season.

Back in April Bimelech was picked as another wonder horse. He still tops the three-year-olds, but he isn't any wonder horse. Two defeats, including the Kentucky Derby, have cut into his laurel collection.

With Challedon under repairs, with Kayak sick, there have been no top handicap horses. One wins, and then another. Again no standouts.

Some three-year-old, maybe Bimelech, will have to hurry to save the crop.

The golfers have been in the same fix. Byron Nelson failed in his 1940 defense of the title as Lawson Little moved in. With the confidence developed from this victory Little may set another smoking pace, such as he put through in the amateur division. But he is in a much tougher league now. Anyway, the ex-amateur star has a great chance to become one of the outstanding figures of golf.

He has a tough title to defend when you must beat off 1,100 challengers in place of one or two.

This, in a way, is all the better for building up public interest.

Yanks Now on Short End

Take up the difference shown in the American league race. A year ago we had only the Yankees—practically losing the rest of the league. Now we have four ball clubs with a chance, and the Yankees have only an outside chance. Rated 1 to 3 when the season opened, they are far from being favorites with the race about half run. This has trebled interest in Cleveland, Detroit and Boston, as well as other cities.

A race, to the mob, is always more interesting than a runaway.

Bill McKechnie's Reds represent the most consistent combination in baseball for 1939 and 1940. They were leading the league a year ago, and they are still the team to beat for 1940.

Bill McKechnie

They have more opposition this season than they faced last summer. But they are still the most consistent ball club at the half-mile post. They have the better pitching, day in and day out, to call upon.

Tennis Crop Blighted

Amateur tennis had little left when Don Budge retired. With Wimbledon and the Davis Cup eliminated, tennis had to take one on the point of the chin.

The game is still looking for some personality—such as McLoughlin, Bill Johnston, Bill Tilden, Ellsworth Vines or Budge. There is no such party around at this writing. So far the crop is colorless.

In baseball, the slump of DiMaggio, Dickey and others has been offset by such pitching stars as Bob Feller and Buck Newsom.

There is only a slight chance that any home-run hitter will reach the 50 mark. Feller has the best chance to pick up 30 victories and he may reach this highly desirable spot.

Bob Feller might easily be baseball's standout for the present year—a star pitcher hooked up with a leading ball club.

But when you sum up the list the one outstander—the lone eagle in the sporting eyrie—is still Joe Louis. He is champion of the champs.

And this goes for all the sporting fields we know today, horse or man, or man or horse. Not only as a fighter but in the way he has conducted himself, Louis is practically all alone.

Only a big upheaval through the remainder of 1940 can change this rating or ranking.

Buck Newsom Rides Again

No one can say that Louis Norman ("Buck") Newsom hasn't seen his share of baseball scenery. In the last 12 years Buck has played with at least 12 different teams in six or seven leagues, and here he is today burning up the American with a varied assortment of wares.

Buck was born in Hartsville, S. C., 32 years ago. He had to wander a long time to reach his peak.

His first and tallest upward lunge took place two years ago when he won 20 ball games for the Browns.

AROUND THE HOUSE

A layer or two of blotting paper put over grease spots on the wall, and a warm iron laid on top of them, will often take away the marks.

• • •

It is poor economy to save ice by wrapping it in heavy paper or cloth. Such covering insulates the ice from the rest of the refrigerator.

• • •

Quick bread batters should not be beaten. The flour should be stirred with the liquid only enough to dampen the flour so no dry flour is visible around the edges of the bowl. It is not necessary to beat a batter until every lump disappears. Thicker batters require a little more stirring than thinner ones, but no beating.

• • •

A little milk added to the blue water used for lace curtains will launder them beautifully.

• • •

Shades of pink can be set by soaking in salt water.

• • •

If you have over-salted the soup, peel a potato and put several slices into the soup. Boil it for a few minutes and the potato will absorb the salt.

• • •

Broiled tomato slices not only decorate but also improve the flavor of steak or chops.

Just Commenting

"MAN never is but always to be blest:" The old dirt roads we used to know held the rain, hence seas of mud. The new paved roads are swifter, though they shed the rain and make the flood.—*Toledo Blade.*

"Moths are the least aggressive and assertive of insects," says an entomologist. After viewing a pair of trousers we can testify that they are willing to take a back seat.—*Montreal Star.*

When a man has committed a low-down crime the court selects "a jury of his peers" to hear the details.—*Savannah News.*

It's a horrible thought, but the chances are that a considerable percentage of the next generation will be bowlegged from learning to walk in trailers.—*Atlanta Journal.*

The older we become, the more prone we are to believe that elderly is a nicer word than old.—*Atchison Globe.*

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